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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/868,640

06/28/2001

Kayo Imamura

P21001

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04/22/2004

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE
RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

CHANNAVAJJALA, SRIRAMA T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2177

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/868,640

Applicant(s)

IMAMURA, KAYO

Examiner

Srirama Channavajjala

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3-5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings filed on 8/4/2002 are approved by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) based upon an application SI.No.# 2000-040844 filed in Japan on 2/18/2000, SI.No.11-312561, filed on 11/2/1999.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed on 9/28/2001, 10/25/2001, and 12/4/2001 comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), has been considered, a copy of each is herewith enclosed with this office action, paper no. # 6.

It is however, noted that the following IDS filed on 11/01/2001, paper no. # 3 are not considered because these documents are NOT IN ENGLISH.

Document Numbers: a) 11259528; b) 3061933.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1- 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Broerman, US Patent No. 6594633 in view of Bodor et al., [hereafter Bodor],

US Patent No. 6201546.

5. As to Claim 1, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a housing related commodity sales support system capable of providing information regarding housing related commodity to a terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via a network system' [see Abstract, fig 1,4], a housing related commodity corresponds to Broerman's real estate related information, terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via network system corresponds to Broerman's real estate computer network, fig 1; 'a database which stores housing display data including information regarding a layout of a housing' [col 6, line 19-26, col 9, line 12-17, line 45-49], a database which stores housing display data corresponds to Broerman's property database fig 3-4, element 20, further it is noted that Broerman specifically suggests property record including property description, dimension of rooms, and other features as detailed in col 9, line 15-17; 'browser providing means which provides the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser with a browser' [fig 5, col 10, line 9-15], browser corresponds to Broerman's fig 5, element 122, prospective purchaser corresponds to buyer as

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detailed in col 10, line 9-10; 'the browser including at least a first display section which displays an interior of the housing [fig 4-5], 'second display section which displays a viewpoint manipulating menu with which a user manipulates a viewpoint' [fig 5A-5C]; 'data transmitting means which transmits the housing display data stored in the database to the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system upon request from the browser provided on the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 6, line 9-12, col 8, line 56-65]. It is however, noted that Broerman does not specifically teach ' a three dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data'. On the other hand, Bodor disclosed a three dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data' [see col 4, line 50-59, col 5, line 65-67, col 6, line 1-5, fig 9-10], three-dimensional virtual space corresponds to Bodor's fig 9-10.

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Bodor et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman because both are directed to real estate related information, more specifically Bodor et al., is directed to generating three dimensional textured models, more specifically generating a three -dimensional model related to real estate applications that including images, objects, and scene where users provide the information to system as detailed in fig 1, col 4, line 50-54; while Broerman is directed to real estate computer network, more specifically real estate transactions between buyer and seller as detailed in fig 3, Abstract. One of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have been motivated to incorporate the

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teachings of Bodor et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman, more specifically modifying Broerman's fig 6 incorporate three dimensional textured models because that would have allowed users of Broerman to search real estate property of a specific dimensional or size of the house to meet the user's requirement as suggested by Boror et al., [see col 5, line 47-52].

6. As to Claim 2, Broerman teaches a system which including 'database is so configured as to store the housing display data in conjunction with information regarding an object of real-estate' [fig 4-5,col 9, line 9-12].

7. As to Claim 3, Broerman teaches a system which including 'receives a notice that a sales negotiation relating to the real estate object is in progress from a terminal of a computer of a seller selling the real estate object or the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 10, line 44-50], 'transmission of the housing display data correlated with the real estate object to a terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser other than the prospective purchaser who is in progress of the sales negotiation upon receiving the notice' [col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-12].

8. As to Claim 4, Broerman teaches a system which including 'purchaser information receiving means which receives information which identifies the prospective purchaser from the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [see fig 5,col 8, line 66-67,col 9, line 1-8, col 10, line 63-67]; 'contact information transmitting means

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which transmits information necessary for contacting the prospective purchaser to a terminal of a computer of a seller selling the real estate object, or transmitting information necessary for contacting the real estate object seller to the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser upon receiving the purchaser information' [fig 5, col 7, line 17-21, line 28-34].

9. As to Claim 5, Broerman teaches a system which including 'means which receives a notice that a sales contract regarding the real estate object has been completed from a terminal of a computer of a seller selling the real estate object or the terminal of the computer of the purchaser who purchased the real estate object' [col 6, line 30-34, col 7, line 54-67, col 11, line 43-55]; 'a database which stores information regarding the completed sales contract in conjunction with the contact information of the purchaser who purchased the real estate object, information regarding a date of completing the sales contract, and the housing display data correlated with the purchased real estate object upon receiving the notice' [col 8, line 1-19], 'means which stores a reforming plan which has been created based on the housing display data' [col 8, line 23-26, col 9, line 25-30], 'means which calculates a time that a reforming plan be proposed regarding the real estate object based on the sales contract completion date' [col 9, line 30-34, col 11, line 13-16]; 'means which presents the reforming plan to the purchaser based on the contact information when the proposal time has come' [col 13, line 7-22].

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10. As to Claim 6, Broerman teaches a system which including 'data registration tool providing means which provides via the network system the database with a data registration tool with which the housing display data is registered via the network system upon request from a terminal of a computer of a real estate object seller' [col 2, line 20-37, col 9, line 12-16].

11. As to Claim 7, 10, Broerman teaches a system which including 'the database is so configured as to store a plurality of interior display data including information regarding an interior of the housing' [col 9, line 12-17, line 25-30], 'the browser includes a third display section which displays menu' [see fig 5], 'the data transmitting means is so configured as to transmit the interior display data stored in the database to the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system upon request from the browser on the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [fig 1, abstract]. On the other hand, Bodor teaches 'displays an interior manipulating menu with which a user selects the interior to be displayed in the virtual space from the interior display data' [see fig 9-12, col 10, line 10-22].

12. As to Claim 8, both Broerman and Bodor teach 'store housing data' [see Broerman: fig 3, element 20; Bodor: col 5, line 65-67, col 6, line 1-5], further Bodor disclosed 'interior display data in conjunction with information regarding commodity of the interior of the housing' [fig 9-12, col 12, line 48-63].

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13. As to Claim 9, Broerman disclosed 'data registration tool providing means which provides via the network system the database with a data registration tool with which the interior display data is registered via the network system upon request from a terminal of the computer of an interior commodity seller' [col 2, line 20-37, col 9, line 12-16]

14. As to Claim 11-12, Bodor disclosed 'user is allowed to select a location for displaying the furniture in the virtual space' [see fig 8,11].

15. As to Claim 13, Broerman teaches a system which including 'data registration tool providing means which provides via the network system the database with a data registration tool' [col 2, line 20-37, col 9, line 12-16], 'data is registered via the network system upon request from a terminal of a computer' [see fig 1 and 3]. On the other hand Bodor disclosed interior displaying data that including furniture as shown in fig 8-11.

16. As to Claim 14, Broerman teaches 'browser is so configured as to enable the user to obtain the data by accessing web site' [see fig 5, col 9, line 10-17]. On the other hand, Bodor disclosed 'furniture display data stored in the database publicized on the Internet at a web site virtually displaying furniture' [see fig 8-11, col 15, line 29-31]

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17. As to Claim 15, 17-21, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a housing related commodity sales support system capable of providing information regarding housing related commodity to a terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via a network system' [see Abstract, fig 1,4], a housing related commodity corresponds to Broerman's real estate related information, terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via network system corresponds to Broerman's real estate computer network, fig 1; 'a database which stores plurality of interior display data including information regarding an interior of a housing' [col 6, line 19-26, col 9, line 12-17, line 45-49], a database which stores data related to housing corresponds to Broerman's property database fig 3-4, element 20, further it is noted that Broerman specifically suggests property record including property description, dimension of rooms, and other features as detailed in col 9, line 15-17; 'housing data creating tool providing means which provides via the network system a housing data creating tool with which housing display data including information regarding a layout of the housing is created upon request from the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 9, line 12-17, col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-5]; 'browser providing means which provides a browser including at least a first display section' [see fig 5A-5B]; 'terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [fig 1, fig 3], purchaser corresponds to fig 3, element 13 buyer; 'data transmitting means which transmits the interior display data stored in the database to the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system upon request from the browser on the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 6, line 9-12, col 8, line 56-65]. It is however, noted that

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Broerman does not specifically teach ' a three dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data', 'user manipulates a viewpoint in the virtual space and a third display section which displays an interior manipulating menu with which the user selects the interior of the housing to be displayed in the virtual space from the plurality display data. On the other hand, Bodor disclosed a three dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data' [see col 4, line 50-59, col 5, line 65-67, col 6, line 1-5, fig 9-10], three-dimensional virtual space corresponds to Bodor's fig 9-10, 'user manipulates a viewpoint in the virtual space and a third display section which displays an interior manipulating menu with which the user selects the interior of the housing to be displayed in the virtual space from the plurality display data [see col 4, line 50-59, col 5, line 39-52, fig 8-11]

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Bodor et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman because both are directed to real estate related information, more specifically Bodor et al., is directed to generating three dimensional textured models, more specifically generating a three -dimensional model related to real estate applications that including images, objects, and scene where users provide the information to system as detailed in fig 1, col 4, line 50-54; while Broerman is directed to real estate computer network, more specifically real estate transactions between buyer and seller as detailed in fig 3, Abstract. One of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have been motivated to incorporate the

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teachings of Bodor et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman, more specifically modifying Broerman's fig 6 incorporate three dimensional textured models because that would have allowed users of Broerman to search real estate property of a specific dimensional or size of the house to meet the user's requirement as suggested by Boror et al., [see col 5, line 47-52].

18. As to Claim 16, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a housing related commodity sales support system capable of providing information regarding housing related commodity to a terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via a network system' [see Abstract, fig 1,4], a housing related commodity corresponds to Broerman's real estate related information, terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via network system corresponds to Broerman's real estate computer network, fig 1; 'a database which stores, display data including information regarding an interior of a housing' [col 6, line 19-26, col 9, line 12-17, line 45-49], a database which stores data related to housing corresponds to Broerman's property database fig 3-4, element 20, further it is noted that Broerman specifically suggests property record including property description, dimension of rooms, and other features as detailed in col 9, line 15-17; 'housing data creating tool providing means which provides via the network system a housing data creating tool with which housing display data including information regarding a layout of the housing is created upon request from the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 9, line 12-17, col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-5]; 'browser providing means which provides a browser including at least a first display

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section' [see fig 5A-5B]; 'terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [fig 1, fig 3], purchaser corresponds to fig 3, element 13 buyer;' data transmitting means which transmits the interior display data stored in the database to the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system upon request from the browser on the terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 6, line 9-12, col 8, line 56-65]. It is however, noted that Broerman does not specifically teach 'plurality of furniture display data including information regarding a configuration of furniture to be arranged in an interior of a housing', 'displays an interior of the housing as a three-dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data', 'view point manipulating menu with which a user manipulates a viewpoint in the virtual space and a forth display section which displays a furniture manipulating menu with which the user selects furniture to be displayed in the housing in the virtual space'.

On the other hand, Bodor teaches plurality of furniture display data including information regarding a configuration of furniture to be arranged in an interior of a housing' col 4, line 53-55, 'displays an interior of the housing as a three-dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data', [fig 8-11, col 10, line 10-15] 'view point manipulating menu with which a user manipulates a viewpoint in the virtual space and a forth display section which displays a furniture manipulating menu with which the user selects [col 5, line 65-67, col 6, line 1-5] 'furniture to be displayed in the housing in the virtual space' [fig 8-11]

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It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Bodor et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman because both are directed to real estate related information, more specifically Bodor et al., is directed to generating three dimensional textured models, more specifically generating a three -dimensional model related to real estate applications that including images, objects, and scene where users provide the information to system as detailed in fig 1, col 4, line 50-54; while Broerman is directed to real estate computer network, more specifically real estate transactions between buyer and seller as detailed in fig 3, Abstract. One of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Bodor et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman, more specifically modifying Broerman's fig 6 incorporate three dimensional textured models because that would have allowed users of Broerman to search real estate property of a specific dimensional or size of the house to meet the user's requirement as suggested by Boror et al., [see col 5, line 47-52].

Conclusion

The prior art made of record

- a. US Patent No. 6594633
- b. US Patent No. 6201546

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure

- c. US Patent No. 6615187
- d. US Patent No. 6397208
- e. US Patent No. 6519618
- f. US Patent No. 6323885
- g. US Patent No. 6636803
- h. US Patent No. 6484176
- i. US Patent No. 5754850
- j. US Patent No. 5584025
- k. US Patent No. 5794216
- l. US Patent No. 5930770
- m. US Patent No. 6563529


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srirama Channavajjala whose telephone number is (703) 308-8538. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM Eastern Time. The TC2100's Customer Service number is (703) 306-5631.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene, can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone numbers for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

703/746-7238	(After Final Communication)
703/872-9306	(Offical Communications)
703/746-7240	(For Status inquiries, draft communication)

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

sc 
Patent Examiner.
April 20, 2004.